

Powell; ten grandchildren; two sisters, Pansy Pannell and Sandee R Janney; and Dot Kidd, who was like a second mother to him. I would like to offer my condolences to them on the loss of this great man.

FIREFIGHTER AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire, rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

First responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get "the call."

Nine years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Parrish Fire District Division Chief Michael Williamson was chosen for the Career Service Award.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Morris Lopez; Captains Derek Butler, Michael Bugg, Erik Sawyer, and Brian Visnovic; Acting Captains Charles Bridges and Adam Brown; Firefighters Travis Poirier and Edward Kofler; Fire Medics Colin Tracey, Gilad Maimoni, Brandon Gadberry, Adam Schwer, Violet Anderson, Juanita Benjamin, Brian Johnson, and Ryan VanBuskirk; Lieutenants Joseph Blackwelder and Joshua Veeck; Driver Engineers Ralph Mascaro, Derek Wendt, Ayron Burden, Jerome Mancillas, Jeffrey Hartzner, Patrick Geiger; and Acting Driver Engineers Marc Dieth, Joshua Thompson, and Ryan Fritz; and Manatee Search and Rescue Deputy Chief John Elwood and K9 Karma, and Captain Michael Dvorak and K9 Max were chosen to receive the Unit Citation.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Captain John Shirah and Driver Engineer Peter Dziubinski; Sarasota County Fire Department Lieutenant Randy Allen and Fire Medics Miriam Troyer, Andrew Moler, and Michael Alberti were chosen to receive the Preservation of Life Award.

Hillsborough County Fire and Rescue Lieutenant Kimberlee Rogers, Deputy Chief Jason Dougherty; Manatee Search Nicholas Reis; and Manatee County EMS Social Worker Sonia Shuhart were chosen for the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Terri Adams; Corporals William Barnes and Carlos Brito; and Deputies Keaton Bruce and Andrew Fleming; and Civilians Trexley and Bradley Cleophat were chosen for the Associate Service Award.

CELEBRATING KRISTY DUBINSKY'S ACHIEVEMENT

HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Kristy Dubinsky, who selflessly painted portraits for the families of the 13 U.S. service members killed in evacuation efforts at the Hamid Karzai International Airport on August 26, 2021.

After learning of the suicide bombing in Kabul, Afghanistan on August 26, 2021, Kristy Dubinsky immediately knew she needed to honor the 13 U.S. service members killed in that senseless act. An accomplished artist herself, Ms. Dubinsky was already working on another piece for an art show in Michigan. However, she dropped what she was working on to paint a portrait of each service member who gave their life that day.

Ms. Dubinsky, an art teacher at Elizabeth Forward High School specializing in military themes, said that "a voice in my head just kept telling me to paint the 13." Kristy documented the entire process. She posted daily on her social media platforms for others to follow along. While recording the progress over the 13 days, a disabled former Marine, Shelly Frontera, saw what Kristy posted and traveled from Michigan to honor the 13 soldiers by accompanying each painting with a red, white bud vase, and blue rose.

Ms. Dubinsky's portraits depict 12 of the 13 in formal dress: Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David Espinoza, Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin Hoover, Army Staff Sgt. Ryan Knauss, Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan Merola, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem Nikouli, Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Pichardo, Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto Sanchez, Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared Schmitz, Navy Hospital Corpsman Maxton Soviak, and Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan Page. Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole Gee is the only exception. Ms. Dubinsky chose to depict the iconic photo of her holding an Afghan baby as evacuation efforts continued.

Kristy's portraits are now part of the world's largest annual juried international art show, with 900 artists and thousands of visitors attending.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the achievements of Kristy Dubinsky. Her work is exceptional and solidifies her reputation as a champion of the American service members in our region.

WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS—ATLANTA BRAVES

HON. LUCY MCBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of an event 26 years in the making. This week, Georgia, and the entire nation, watched as our Atlanta Braves shut out the Houston Astros in Game 6, clinching the World Series for Atlanta for the first time in decades.

I am so proud of this team. They fought through adversity, carrying a losing record until August 6th. They overcame injuries and fought hard for their teammates whose season ended early. Every part of the Atlanta Braves organization deserves credit for this win: from the players, to the management, and the front office staff that still believed in this team when so many others might have given up. I am thrilled for every player and every fan who has dreamed of this moment for over two decades.

The odds were against us, but to paraphrase the words of Joc Pederson, "We just might be those World Series Champs."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHIP ROY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 339.

BIOMASS & BIOGAS FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act."

In passing the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-140), Congress made electricity from renewable biomass—including biogas and waste-to-energy from feedstocks such as separated yard or food waste—eligible under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). Despite years of Congressional urging, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has yet to approve a single biomass facility under the program. Some applications for biomass electricity—known as "pathway petitions" under the RFS program—have been pending now for more than 7 years.

I have long supported a utility-scale subsidy for biomass electricity to create a market for byproducts of proper forest management and hazardous fuels reduction in fire-prone states like California. This legislation fulfills that objective by working within the framework of the existing Renewable Fuel Standard, which already includes electricity generated from eligible feedstocks used as a transportation fuel.

Under current law and USEPA regulations, "renewable biomass" is already defined to include biogas, namely methane captured from livestock and agricultural byproducts, food waste, or residential yard waste. As such, my "Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act" would complement the significant investments California is making under the State's successful Dairy Digester Research and Development Program.

Currently, the USEPA requires facilities to prove with near-perfect traceability that the electricity generated is used as a transportation fuel to participate in the RFS program. Most renewable biomass facilities are selling electricity into the grid and, therefore, cannot